

# FEMININE FANCIES

## DANCE FROCKS FOR AFTERNOON.

BY ANNE RITTENHOUSE.

Special Correspondence of The Star.  
NEW YORK, March 6.—The fashion for white and black plaid, which began when so large a part of the world went into mourning, and when ornate thoughts were involuntarily turned toward the somber shadows of life, has now extended into gowns designed for gayety.  
One of the newest frocks designed after the fashions had been outlined for the spring in Paris, presents a distinct novelty. It is intended for the afternoon dancing, which, despite constant rumors, shows little or no decrease in popularity. It has little novelty of outline, if that is what women are searching for, but I imagine that most, outside the commercial ones, are quite content this season to rest on the silhouette that was invented and established over here in December.  
The hem, as you will probably notice in the beginning, is moderately narrow. There is a sister to this frock that has a hem twelve yards wide, made up of taring pieces, melon shaped, which at the waist and hips like a glove, showing skill on the part of the creator; few women will accept it, however, although it has been urged on many. There is also a tunic that is flat in front and flaring at the sides, which does not present anything new to our eyes, but the bodice is especially attractive.  
It is significant in that it shows a return to that form of waistcoat which the French designers have put before the public over and over again since last spring. It is pleasing, and is a fashion which suggests inspiration to the woman who has to make over the frocks she possesses before she buys new ones. It is well to say here, parenthetically, that it is not necessary to have this waistcoat bodice made of the same material as the skirt, which is a fact that gives one latitude.  
The top of the bodice is of chiffon quite as the bodice of the frock of two seasons ago, a fashion which has not been in the ascendancy for the last six months. Its presence in the latest afternoon frock may not argue that the fashion will return for general use, although the superheated climate of America in summer makes one look askance at the bodice whose material extends upward to the collar.

Good Model for a Voile Frock.  
That plaid and plain silk will be featured this spring is obvious, but there are women who will have none of either for various reasons. They welcome the return of the voile because it does not crease easily, wears well.

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## AMERICAN FASHIONS.

BY LILLIAN E. YOUNG.

The newest and smartest shade of blue is designated "bleu soldat" or soldier blue, and really is remarkably pleasing. It rather borders on the violet, but is not so dark and probably resembles the blue of gentians as nearly as any other known shade.  
This will be a modish spring color and is particularly good in taffetas, of which the illustrated dress is fashioned.  
It will be necessary to have a white China silk waist lining, sleeveless, of course, and just serving as a foundation to which the skirt and little shirred sock yoke may be attached. The shirred yoke is merely added above the skirt.



TAFFETA FROCK IN A NEW SHADE OF BLUE.

round décolletage of the lining and shows inside the wide V of overblouse.  
The top of the skirt is evenly gathered all round, and an added section of self material, the lower part of the skirt is trimmed with two bands of self material, the first a trifle narrower than the second, and both slightly frilled under a finishing cord. In little square tabs to correspond with the lower edge of the blouse.  
In front the short unconfined edge of the blouse rises up at the center. The sides and back are held in a little, about four inches above the waist under a cording. The sleeves show three encircling bands of self material all shaded to form square tabs.  
Over either hip and below the center of the V neck a bit of dull silver embroidery is introduced, taking the form of long, narrow points that are extremely attractive as a trimming.

Swift & Company's Sales of Beef in Washington, D. C. for the week ending Saturday, March 6, averaged as follows: Domestic Beef, 10.55 cents per pound—advertisement.

## Macaroni With Cheese.

Break half a pound of macaroni into short lengths; cook until tender in boiling salted water. It must be clear and soft, but not mushy. Drain and put a layer in the bottom of a buttered baking dish. Dot with butter, sprinkle lightly with cayenne and salt to taste. Cover with grated cheese, and on this dispose another layer of macaroni. Fill the dish in this order, having cheese for the top layer. Pour in a cupful of milk; cover and bake half an hour. Uncover and brown.

## THE DAILY MENU.

**BREAKFAST**  
Grapefruit Cereal  
Country Scramble  
Griddle Cakes Coffee  
**LUNCHEON**  
Macaroni Baked with Cheese  
Stewed Tomatoes Toast  
Cookies Tea  
**DINNER**  
Cream of Celery Soup  
Lamb Chops Baked Potatoes Peas  
Sliced Tomatoes with Mayonnaise  
Italian Cream Coffee

## When Cooking Carrots.

Scrape and boil the carrots until tender, then drain from the water and cut into long slender pieces not much larger than matchsticks. Brown a tablespoonful of butter with one of flour in a saucepan, add an onion, scraped or finely chopped, then toss the carrot strips in the simmering butter until brown; season with pepper and salt and at the last moment thin with a tablespoonful of vinegar and add a teaspoonful of chopped parsley.

When served plain in this form, or on hot creamed toast, the dish is known as carrots lyonnaise. For the carrot salad the same plan may be followed, in browning and seasoning; or the plain boiled and diced carrots may be simply tossed in spiced vinegar and served on lettuce leaves with mayonnaise dressing.

There are various relishes that may be served under the name of creamed carrots. Whether served in a white cream sauce or in a browned butter sauce, the mistake most frequently made is found in the first preparation of the cream. It is natural to use the highly flavored water in which the carrots are boiled for the sauce, but it is much better to use a plain milk and butter sauce.

When the carrots are tender, drain from the water, and add prepared sauce by the usual milk-and-thicken process; add the diced carrots, season with pepper and salt, and serve on hot toast, or as a relish with the breakfast bacon.

Still another form of creamed carrots that should be given a distinct name is made by grating the carrots before cooking.

and comes in admirable colors. Truly, a trio of virtues.

This model can be copied in such material as the designer wants, and the material that will serve all the occasions for gayety that are apt to come into her life acts unwisely in choosing plaid. That is a design for a full wardrobe, a design that can be made into a frock that is to serve occasionally, but not every time one sallies forth on pleasure bent after 5 o'clock.

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## SPRING RELISHES.

Springtime appetites should be as fresh and unimpaired as is the spring itself. But too often the spring appetite is dulled and it is only by dint of constant care the housekeeper or cook is able to prepare a tempting diet on the spring table.

Winter fare falls in March, and the usual winter condiments and appetizers fail to work successfully. Mustard pickles, chowchow, cold olive, olives, all have lost their winter trick of whetting the appetite. Celery has literally lost most of its crispness and sometimes by being new appetizers and relishes must be relied on to give point to the daily diet.

Cucumbers are one reliable spring relish. There is, of course, much objection to cucumbers on the ground of indigestibility. They are usually indigestible—that nobody can deny. But some people do not find them so, and eat them without harm. So if they are not taboo on your table, make use of them. It is a good plan to slice them thinly and place them in iced water in the refrigerator for an hour before using them. Then dress them with oil and vinegar and serve them with fish. Or dice them and mix them with diced green pepper and celery, with mayonnaise, in cups of lettuce leaves as a salad.

Tomatoes, too, can be made to serve admirably the purpose of whetting the appetite. A very good appetizer with which to begin dinner is a round of firm tomato, half an inch thick, on which is placed a teaspoonful of spiced vinegar and served on lettuce leaves with mayonnaise dressing. Sliced tomatoes, iced in the refrigerator, are a good dinner accompaniment. They may be served with fish or with the meat course. And, of course, all sorts of tomato salads are delicious in spring. And a good sherbet for dinner can be made of equal parts of strained tomato juice and meat stock, to which a little soft gelatin has been added, frozen in an ice cream freezer to sherbet consistency.

Radishes should always be served very cold. Clean them and chill them thoroughly in iced water and then cut in attractive shapes. Make roses, sometimes, by cutting back the root and skin in points. Again, slash the radishes from the pointed end down three or four times. Slice radishes and serve with other vegetables on lettuce leaves for salad.

Sweet green peppers are as useful in warm weather as in cold. Chop them and mix with an equal amount of celery, chopped fine, and moisten with mayonnaise. Serve a spoonful on a lettuce leaf, or serve a spoonful on a slice of thin, crisp toast in the form of a canape for an appetizing beginning to dinner. Stuff a pepper, baking powder and one cup of sugar. Moisten with sufficient milk to make a stiff batter; tie in a floured cloth, put in boiling water and boil for three hours and a half. Serve with hard sauce.

The fact that a great deal of wash braid, cotton loops and fancy buttons are used on children's dresses, proves that the mother and her help are being followed even for the kiddies.

Boiled Rhubarb Pudding.

Chop enough rhubarb to weigh half a pound. Put it into a basin, add five cupfuls of sifted flour, half a cup of finely chopped suet, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one cup of sugar. Moisten with sufficient milk to make a stiff batter; tie in a floured cloth, put in boiling water and boil for three hours and a half. Serve with hard sauce.

Rhubarb Bavarian Cream.

One heaping tablespoonful of powdered gelatin, one cup of stewed rhubarb, half a cup of boiling water, three tablespoonfuls of marshmallow, one cup of sugar and two cups of whipped cream are required. Dissolve the gelatin with water, add the sugar and fold in the whipped cream. Stir till nearly stiff, then add the marshmallow and sugar. Pour into a well mold and let stand, packed in ice and salt, for four hours.

Custard Cream Pie.

Make a custard by pouring three cups scalding milk that has been beaten light with four tablespoonfuls of sugar. Flavor with vanilla and pour into a pie dish lined with puff paste. Bake until set, serve cold.

The fuller the skirt the shorter it seems to be.

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